Service Club spearheads Haitian relief efforts

Opportunities to donate online through MBA homepage

By Michael Seitz
Features Editor

MBA has actively responded to the devastating earthquake in Haiti by working to raise money and supplies. Already the senior class held a Big Red Day, and the Student Council sponsored a 3-on-3 basketball tournament, raising together over $800 for Haitian relief efforts.

The MBA Service Club has also set in place numerous ways to help donate to the cause. MBA has opened http://www.mbahaitifund.org/ for donations to Doctors Without Borders, with a goal of raising $5,000 to aid victims, and the club will also be donating through Partners in Health at http://www.standwithhaiti.org/.

Additionally, boxes will be set up around campus for PROJECT C.U.R.E., accepting donations of first aid and hygiene supplies to help with preparation for deliveries of medical relief to Haiti.

Both the MBA Service Club and the Martin Luther King Society are donating money they have raised to Haitian relief organizations.

Other projects around Nashville are also benefiting from Service Club funds.

Richard Wall collects needed medical supplies from fellow seniors Sam Denney and Gaige Bolden. The Service Club, active every day of the week this year, has organized a handful of projects for the community to focus on. Photo by Pat Killian

Big Red football concludes memorable decade

By Nathan Dewitt
Staff Writer

The 2009 MBA football season concluded a decade of remarkable moments on the field. Because MBA's football teams were so electrifying during the past ten years (91 wins and four state titles), it is difficult to compile a list of the top ten moments from the 2000’s. There were blowouts, overtimes, championships, and lasting memories. Let’s take a look at the best of the best.

1. MBA 23, Trinity 21 (2006)

Although it was only the second game of the season, MBA's roster was already injury-plagued. Two more season-ending injuries to senior starters during this game didn’t help the Big Red’s cause. The team showed its resilience on the road, though, and beat Trinity on a last second missed field goal by the Shamrocks. The win was the team’s second in as many weeks versus a Kentucky opponent.

2. MBA 31, Maplewood 28 (2009)

A highly touted Maplewood team rolled down West End looking to snap MBA’s 14-game home win streak. Trailing 28-17 with five minutes left in the game, the Big Red had a 1-1 start to the season staring them in the face. But a quick touchdown, a flawlessly executed onside kick, and another touchdown led to the dramatic win against a very athletic Panthers team.

Graduation hit MBA hard in 2007, and many people expected a drop-off for MBA in 2008. However, they proved people wrong by going 10-0 and making the state playoffs.

Students and players celebrate another win for the Big Red. Over the past decade, the football team compiled an impressive resume of state championships, undefeated seasons, and national rankings. Photo courtesy of Mr. Jamie Tillman

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Red, White, and...Brown?

By Aaron Lukowitz
Staff Opinions Writer

An A-rating from the National Rifle Association would seem fitting for a successful candidate in the Southeast, or a pickup driver might win a political seat in the Midwest, perhaps. A nude photo for Cosmo’s 1982 “America’s Sexiest Man” contest could pass in inner culture. But in the passen-

gerately “blue” state of Massachusetts, especially a senate seat dominated by Kennedy’s, the victory of Republic-

lican Scott Brown, who possesses all of the above-mentioned qualities, shocked many. As he takes over his self-proclaimed “people’s seat” from the man who fought for government-backed healthcare almost his entire political career, the bitter irony for Democrats losing their supermajority in the Senate is profound. Nonetheless, the outcome of this election should teach both political parties some important lessons for the 2010 midterm elections.

For Republicans: do not become moderates. With 49% Independent and only 35% Republicans in Massachusetts, a lay observer would question Scott Brown’s conservative campaign message. Yet the beauty of his strategy lay in its simplicity and its consistently conservative tone. Turning far to the right on popular, opposition issues, namely opposition to Demo-

cratic healthcare reform, ballooning deficits, and soft foreign policy, while simultaneously de-emphasizing his less popular conservative positions, such as opposition to gay marriage, gave Brown an edge.

This lesson can be applied to the past year in politics. In the 23rd New York district election, national Republican leaders supported a moderate over the more conservative pri-

mary candidate, and the divisions over moderation within the party gave the Democrats the win. In 2008, McCain’s passive, moderate campaign proved no match for the liberal avalanche of Obamanamia. Republicans have every advantage in these midterm elections as incumbent Democrats in Washing-

ton appear increasingly distant from the voices of Americans. Offering a strong, conservative message, as op-

posed to “Democrats-lite,” is the key to success. When Brown’s supporters chanted “Yes, we can,” it was a symbol that they had learned the message of strong partisan views from President Obama’s campaign.

For Democrats: stop being complacent. Republicans suffered from the hubris of their election victories from 2000 until 2004, only to lose touch with their voters and give up control to the Democrats for the past four years. Democrats appear to be falling into the same traps. Coakley, Brown’s opponent for the Senate seat, lost because she thought the election finished upon winning the primaries (a few jabs at the Red Sox the week the election did not help her chances either). Democrats call her “choak-ley,” but many of these same Democrat leaders in the opposition have been reluctant to give stern speeches for her.

Perhaps more importantly, Demo-

crats in general are not procuring the grassroots support that made them victor-

ious only a year ago. While Coakley lost her seat to an individual voter, Brown’s race brought many disgruntled citizens from other states to assist in his campaign. Democratic candidates should pay close attention to the failures of Coakley and her campaign (or lack thereof).

For Obama: triangulate. Bill Clinton shares many similarities with Barack Obama. Both won their first presidential elections on a message of change. Both promised to be the first black president. Considering the major gains of Repub-

licans in the 1994 midterm elections, by the end of 2010, the current and the former Democrat president will also both share the burden of working with the opposition. Bill Clinton accepted the majority of Republicans in Con-

gress under the mantra of being “the great triangularator” of a new, moderate middle way. He then pushed some very successful legislation, working with Republican congressional leadership. Barack Obama must recognize the new position of the opposition and work with this opposition if he expects to bring this country back to health and civility.

New ruling is supreme mistake

By Jesse Suh
Staff Writer

The recent Supreme Court decision on Citizens United vs. Federal Elections Commission may meet the approval of First Amend-

ment advocates who oppose any government intervention in free-

dom of discussion on an ideological level, especially as it relates to elec-

tions, but, practically, the decision could have harmful consequences for the electoral process that are more tangible than any ideological objection can be.

Citizens United vs. Federal Elections Commission was a court case between Citizens United, a non-profit, conservative organization which was seeking to advertise Hillary: The Movie, and the Federal Elections Commission. Initially, the Court ruled that under the McCain- Feingold reform of campaign financing, a union or a profit or non-profit corporation could not provide funding for any political advertisement from its own direct treasury or broadcast the advertise-

ment on television within a certain amount of time before an election. Hillary: The Movie was deemed to be a form of electioneer-

ing communication that sought to influence the opinions of voters due to the film’s scathing criticism of Hillary Clinton’s bid for the presidency.

The court case was, however, reintroduced in the Supreme Court for further discussion, and this second time the Supreme Court ruled for Citizens United on a 5-4 decision across ideological lines, with Justice Kennedy being the swing vote. The ruling was based on the interpreta-

tion of a corporation or union being equivalent to a person, thereby gaining protection from the First Amendment.

In a practical sense, though, the Supreme Court’s acceptance of a corporation as a human being is nonsense and an illogical way of basing the decision. As a dissenter, Justice Stevens stated that the interpretation of a corporation as a human is loosely a “conceit” and does not entail that a human and a corporation should be treated equivalently. Though corpora-

tions do enjoy fundamental freedoms under the first amendment, they are not treated as a human being in terms of being able to vote or run for office. Therefore, arbitrarily determining that corpora-

tions can now directly attack or support a candidate goes against 200 years of preventing corporations from directly financing campaigns.

The Supreme Court’s precedent-setting interpretation has the potential for destroying the integrity of elections because the ruling could lead to future rulings that give corporations and unions the ability to finance a campaign out of their direct treasury.

Such a wide concession to un-

checked, plutocratic forces would be extremely harmful for elections because a company’s Board could presumably support a candidate with all of its re-

sources even if the board’s views are not consistent with the views of everyone in the company, who may have contributed to the resources available to the company. Greater involvement of corporations in the electoral process would effectively make the process un-

equal because the support and resources of large corporations would benefit a candidate considerably more than those of individuals.

Ultimately, when weighing the pros and cons of the decision, one must decide whether or not a 经济的

freedom of speech, substitutes an arbitrary definition, is preferable to the unlimited funding of political ads. Citizens United vs. Federal Elections Commission al-

ows that companies can “express their free-speech—” and this could lead to direct corporate funding of campaigns, the consequence being the drowning of individual participation in the demo-

cratic sphere.
Mathletes run train in city-wide competitions

By Paul Moore
Staff Writer

The Big Red Math Team is having another successful year in the Nashville Interscholastic Math League, in which twenty-one schools compete in six different subjects.

These competitions are important for several reasons. First, they encourage good math students to study beyond their class time; second, they reward those students who have developed their skills and don’t mind taking a risk; third, they bring quite a bit of attention to a school like MBA, which has an enviable record of success in the competitions. MBA’s Mathletes spend many hours in preparation for these events. They spend weekends taking the tests, and their efforts do not go unnoticed.

The team competed in two city contests over the months of November and December. Our Mathletes were very competitive in four of the six subjects. Top placers included Tom Bu with 1st and Hunter Tidwell with 3rd in Algebra, Karthik Sastry with 2nd and Zach Chen with 5th in Statistics, Joseph Scherrer with 2nd and Stephen Bedard with 3rd in Pre-Calculus, and Sam Hurd with 4th and Chris Habermann with 7th in Geometry.

The team is doing well and has much confidence heading into the remaining contests of the year. MBA currently is leading the year-long competition in the subjects of Algebra II and Statistics and is close behind in Pre-Calculus and Geometry.

The next city contest will be held at Centennial High School on Thursday, February 4.

Teacher designs new course with student aid

By Karthik Sastry
Staff Writer

Starting in the fall of 2010, the Science Department will offer Human Anatomy and Physiology as an elective for seniors.

HAP is designed to be an in-depth study of the human body, with a strong emphasis on the practical applications in the medical field.

Mrs. Wendy Holmgren, who will teach the class, has been working throughout this year to develop the curriculum. Senior Matt Bracy (‘10) has been assisting her in the process, providing a student’s perspective on the course content. An honors course, HAP will examine each system in the human body in even greater detail than the AP Biology course. Lectures will look at the role of each system in the context of diseases and other factors that disrupt the proper functioning of the human body.

The laboratory component of the class will help reinforce connections between the coursework and the practice of medicine. Mrs. Holmgren is hoping to integrate technology that will help students analyze muscle activity with electromyography (EMG measurements), as well as the heart’s electrical signals (ECG), and the brain’s electrical activity (EEG). She is also considering the possibility of having students certified in first aid and CPR. At the end of the year, the class will finish with the dissection of a cat.

The course will also have guest lecturers to further enrich the learning experience. Matt Bracy hopes that the class will feature many distinguished speakers, including Dr. Owen McGuinness, who teaches human physiology at Vanderbilt Medical School.

Matt has been an important resource for Mrs. Holmgren in creating the course. He has reviewed, chapter by chapter, the textbook for the course and has noted its strengths and weaknesses. Matt is a bit disappointed that he did not have the opportunity to take the class himself, but he is happy to have been part of its design.
Seniors continue to put rest of school to shame

By Will Henry
Entertainment Editor

Second semester of the seniors’ final year has begun, but the senior’s dreams just keep getting bigger. For instance, Alex Snow has decided he wants to become a minister and has sent in his application to Presbyterian College. What a righteous soul.

In athletics, seniors are providing the necessary leadership to win championships. Captains Seth Akers-Campbell, Jack Murfee, and Pat Killian, along with Lee Griscom and Thomas Moore are going to Oxford. Thomas Moore says, “I’m studying Classics and he’s studying PPE (Politics, Philosophy, and Economics). My subject is clearly superior. So there.” Deathmatch in the quad to settle this one?

Speaking of Thomas, rumors have it that he has a half-English, half-German, opera-singing love interest. Yet to be confirmed.

Benjamin Miller recently joined the senior class.

Dalton Fouts received a text from a

found later). As school continues to pick up the pace, so do events around campus. On MLK Day, the freshmen were the best represented class of MBA in the annual MLK Day march. On the same day was the student council three-on-three basketball tournament, the proceeds of which went to help the Haiti earthquake survivors. While no freshmen team was able to make a legitimate run for gold, a team comprised of Henry Lynch, Jack Emerson, and Keith Gambill (8th-grader) did take down the team of Morris Eguitakam, Brooks Best, and Wilson Johnson – boom roasted. In the unpredictable world of church basketball, the unbeatable Covenant powerhouse was taken down by Mark Lowe, Henry Lynch, and the rest of the Thunder-Chickens. Despite a promising first half, First Pros fell apart and lost to Westminster, making the latter the only remaining undefeated team in the league.

As usual, the freshmen class is well represented in the varsity sports. The unparalleled swim team is wrapping up its regular season, greatly aided by its 9th graders, headed up by NAC swimmers Tate Ramsden, Andrew Dobbs, Wesley Nealy, Matt McPherson, and Faulkner Werkhoven. The freshman basketball team continues a successful season, despite a recent loss to Brentwood High’s freshman team.

Refreshed, freshmen ball every chance they get

By McLean Hudson
Staff Writer

As you may, or may not, have noticed, we’re back in school. Over the break, freshmen traveled far and wide, with vacation sites ranging from Mexico, to Hawaii, to Colorado. Almost as widely ranging were the presents the freshmen of MBA received over the holidays. While a common theme in gifts seemed to follow the Xbox 360 and/ or Call of Duty, PS3 or iPod trend, many of us were not quite as thrilled. There have been reports of elaborately wrapped beef jerky, mini-Tabasco bottles, and a very used sock inside of an iTouch box (the iPod was

![Image](https://example.com/image)

Kyle Brantley (‘10) and Nathan Dewitt (‘10) keep it classy while running commentary for Big Red basketball. Photo courtesy of Mr. Jamie Tillman

A number of ninth-graders are also hard at work preparing for upcoming seasons of baseball, lacrosse, and even football.

Congratulations to all of you, because for once we’re not leading the high school in demerits. In fact, we currently have fewer than any other class. That will probably change, however, when Mr. Schumacher decides to make the grueling walk to Ball Turn to his demerits.

Remember to wash your hands, because if you don’t, you’ll get a cold, sniff a lot, and Dr. Batten will find you. Peace and blessings.

Juniors make friends through Chatroulette

By Andrew Powell
News Editor

I once got a fortune cookie that said, “It Tastes Sweet,” and I knew it could be talking about one thing only . . . the junior class. Let’s get a glimpse of what these fine fellows have been up to.

Over Winter Break, Harrison Matthews went to Australia and stayed with the man . . . the legend . . . the Pie. He had the fabulous (cf. Mr. Kelly’s class) opportunity to wear Hunter’s skinny jeans and weird Australian clothing.

Will “da stats man” Granbery visited the Coca-Cola factory in Atlanta and tasted 80 different flavors from around the world. He proceeded to write about it very enthusiastically on Facebook.

Matthew Johnson went to Colorado and shredded the slope, nah mean? He, Fish, and T-markham wondered the whole time where Wolda was, until it dawned on them that he was still in Nashville. He is also an honorary member of Leland Howe’s frat in the bayou.

Pasha D spent his Christmas in India, and let’s just say he didn’t have a particularly soulful time…

C-Beezy, whoever that is, went to “nawlleans with his broski Cedric Smiff.” More recently, he exploited the modern legal system to get four, thirty pound boxes of candy. Roll Red.

Mike Scotty Peters, despite being lost in foreign lands, maintains his dominating streak of news appearances, which by now is too many to count . . . unless your name is Will Norton and can calculate such things with a limited edition bamboo slide rule. Mike is still running, and hopes to lock down some All-England status by the end of the season.

Nick Kohler is still engaged . . . maybe? Facebook tells me otherwise, but he’s still wearing his ring…

Alex “my name is Ellie” Hunt makes an official statement on behalf of the christ-ballers. “The Cov. churchball team has been off to a slow start, but we are not known for our regular season play. We will be ready come playoff time.”

Many juniors have started making their summer plans by applying for exchange or one of the generous Wilson Language Grants, while Mason Foote is working on his bod and singing.

Hayes McCord, undercover reporter, informs me Clay Garrett hasn’t gotten any action in a while.

VEast “just finished ballin” at the farm with Cody. They didn’t kill anything, except a blade of grass or two.

The Wyse one saw a leprechaun on chatroulette. Chad Holback says, “What’s Chatroulette”? Mr. Kelly says, “I’m a lep-rechaun.”

In other news, Mrs. Bakken turned down Will McCaskill’s friend request.

And for the grand finale, Will Baker is enjoying Coach Lanier’s class, Bill Shofer now goes by William, Stan Rozar is tall, Austin Lucas is . . . somewhere, Devin McClain is playing some good basketball, Alex Blanton is the same as always, Miles Anderson is . . . somewhere, Hayden Snyder still has 53 demerits, Will Gormley is chillin’ with Andrew Hallahan, Zach Shore on spring break to party with the Situation. Holden Holley had an awesome dancing time with Carmen Linn, Daniel Todd is like a ghost in a blizzard, Pat Killian flew to France to visit Sara while she was on Winterim, and Jackson Roberts does not hold grudges.

By McLean Hudson
Staff Writer

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Sophomores swamped with work, struggling socially

By Joe Scherrer
Staff Writer

A few weeks ago, I was confronted by Will Stewart, who confided that my column was “good, but needs some work. Lots. Why don’t you just GET it? Argghhh!”

Yes, the amount of news has been steadily dwindling here on the Hill – Tim Bulso, once a happy and interesting individual, recently replied to a request for news with only the words, “My life is boring.” At this point, I was both fed up with the lack of news and increasingly aware of the fact that I was desperately in need of a sense of humor. Needless to say, Will was recruited to gather “news.”

A major source of stress is the upcoming sophomore research paper, the rite of passage and excuse for misery rapidly approaching in about a month. The project involves picking a topic that seems the easiest or most interesting, like the one on hippies, finding books that have no relation to the topic, bumbling around in the library while trying to look busy copying pages from reference books, typing those pages into NoodleBib (almost as good a name as Whipple Hill), and then writing the entire paper the night before. Maclin Davis, eager to note his progress, said that he is “reading a book.” He forgot the title, but it has something to do with lightsabers and fish.

When asked how much progress he had made, an anonymous student said, “I’d be reading, but I’ve had this really bad case of COD flu recently, and I haven’t been able to do anything. Plus I forgot how to read.” Sounds like things are going smoothly.

Another topic of interest: Winter Formal, an excuse for Harpeth Hall to have a social event. Karthik Sastry says he’s already been asked by the entire Harpeth Hall class, his pet lizard, and a tree, but “none of them were in my range.” The legendary Danwhal has also been sighted wearing a button-down shirt, in an obvious attempt to attract a date.

On to sports: in football, the entire debate team beat FAST in a scoreless clobbering, 56-0. According to coach Kelly Haselton, “the Chaos Defense stopped them cold” (evidently some sort of cultish, debate inside joke). When asked about his opinion on the matter, Zach Chen shouted “BAM FA!” and started sticking needles in a squishy, grey stress ball shaped like a brain.

Rhett Hooper says he won something a long time ago, but he forgot what it was. Zach Chen has yet to have his Chinese Dumpling Feast, which caused him to go crazy and drill holes in all the rulers in the research room.

Matt Anderson, after complaining about how every book he’s read in English is about death, immediately wrote a story about death and wants to publish it.

Thomas Forcum has been reported to be awake during Latin class, but this rumor still needs to be confirmed, say people familiar with the matter. His brother Robert has the same problem with wakefulness in another Latin class.

Nate Greene says that he “ate food.” Indeed, food is becoming an increasingly important topic here on the Hill. While more adventurous individuals have been inventing new combinations of SAGE food, like the SAGE milkshake or SAGE chili-cheese-ranch-bacon explosion fries, others just take pleasure in the simple things, like hummus-cucumber sandwiches (on bun, of course) or hearty beef stew. Hunter Woolwine, however, feels the need to whine and says “I want Italian sausage.”
Service Club organizes for Haiti, local charities

On exchange, Scotty and Ford storm Britannia

MBA joins area schools for annual MLK March
Bell Ringer writers enjoy Student Reporters night

By Tom Markham
Staff Writer

Bell Ringer staff writers Tom Markham and Andrew Powell ventured downtown to the Sommet Center on January 18th to take part in the Nashville Predators Student Reporters Program. Neither of us had any clue what to expect going into the evening. Andrew had never even been to a Predators’ game, so the night began with great anxiety.

We entered the arena through the media entrance, where we met PR representative Ginny Madari, our guide for the night. She handed us media credentials (we felt very official with those), and we were on our way.

First stop was the media dinner, a pre-game meal for all the reporters, commentators, journalists, and others. Andrew and I kept quietly to ourselves during the dinner, envious the “cool table” with included the likes of Predators’ color commentators Pete Weber and Terry Crisp. We had the great pleasure of meeting Crispy himself later in the evening.

After dinner, we were taken on a tour through the Sommet Center and were surprised at the sheer magnitude of the place. It was huge! The highlight of the tour was getting to see the Zambonis up close and personal.

After the tour, we were taken to the press box. We discovered a unique fact about the Sommet’s press box: as the story goes, during the construction of the arena, the planners forgot to include a press box, so they had to tear a section of seats out of the stadium and place an open-air press box essentially in the middle of the seats at the last minute. Near the press box was the sound and video booth, in which a few technological geniuses run all the sound and video cues for the dead time during the game. They were in charge of such things as the sound played during a timeout and the video clip shown on the Jumbotron. It was very interesting to see how complex the whole system is. It truly is a team effort to make sure the games run smoothly. As we learned, there are multiple such booths around the arena.

Watching the game from the press box, we got a glimpse of how reporters and journalists view a game, while at the same time being in the middle of the home crowd’s atmosphere. The game itself was quite exciting. After falling down 3-0 early, the Predators mounted a serious comeback to tie the game 3-3 in the 3rd period, only to lose 4-3 on a heartbreaking Toronto Maple Leafs’ goal with just a few minutes remaining.

Andrew and I felt very official in the press box, having our own personal space to take notes and watch the game from an excellent bird’s eye view. Neither of us was too fond of the “no cheering” rule, but we were able to manage.

Upon the conclusion of the game, we were led to the post-game press conference, in which excellent journalists interviewed Coach Barry Trotz on the team’s performance. While we didn’t ask any questions ourselves, Andrew and I enjoyed being behind the scenes. We were also quite honored to be sitting directly behind sports columnist David Climer of The Tennessean.

The press conference concluded our night with the Predators, and Andrew and I went home feeling quite proud to have worked behind the scenes at a major professional sporting event. It was fascinating to witness firsthand all the work required to run an event on such a large scale, and we both thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the Student Reporters Program.

Ancient game proves modern distraction

By Jack Hallemen
Staff Writer

Now that we’re a couple of weeks into what feels like the longest quarter of the year, I know what you are all thinking: “I’m running out of ways to procrastinate.” At this point FML has gotten repetitive. Facebook is no longer exciting, and overuse of Chatroulette has made you cockeyed. If you like chess or sudoku, Go is the game John Nash, a mathematician, helped develop.

By Scott Blackwell
Staff Writer

Anyone in assembly a few weeks ago heard MBA’s news a cappella group, Voicemale, perform the song “House of the Rising Sun.” (Note: A cappella is derived from the Italian phrase from the church. The spelling most often has two p’s, but a single p is acceptable.) What many of you may not know, however, is that this is the first year that Mr. Matt Smyth, the teacher who founded this group, has worked at MBA.

Mr. Smyth, majoring in vocal performance in college, was hired last year to work in the music department. Before coming to MBA, Mr. Smyth taught at the University of Oklahoma for two years, having taught choir there at some point by the time he left, and, before that, he worked at Carnegie Hall and at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City.

Smyth found out about MBA when his uncle’s son began attending here, and the accomplished educator ended up sending his resume to Headmaster Brad Gioia. He was hired soon thereafter.

I got a chance to sit down with Mr. Smyth and find out more about him and the contemporary style a cappella music sung by Voicemale. According to Mr. Smyth, “A cappella music is any type of music sung without accompaniment, but the type of music Voicemale sings is contemporary a cappella, which is basically music like rock and Top 40 songs that are widely recognized.”

Mr. Smyth’s interest in contemporary a cappella music began at a young age. As it turns out, when Mr. Smyth was in fourth grade, he sang pop songs at the Olympics, and in sixth grade he sang at the World Series. “I like the immediate interaction singers can have with the audience, because they recognize the music,” he said.

At MBA, Mr. Smyth found that Mr. Gioia had been wanting some sort of choral group to sing contemporary music, so the new teacher volunteered to spearhead this development. In addition to the high school group, Mr. Smyth also started a junior school a cappella group, Failure to Comply, performing such songs as “She’s Got a Way” by Billy Joel and “Man of Constant Sorrow” from O Brother Where Art Thou.

I then asked Mr. Smyth if he could give me some hints as to how upcoming music Voicemale will be singing. He said he plans to have the group sing songs by Owl City, the Eagles, Queen, U2, Bon Jovi, and Journey, to name a few.

Concerning the amount of musical experience necessary to join Voicemale, Mr. Smyth stated, “None, really, you just have to have some vocal ability and, of course, a passion for music.”

The members of Voicemale at work with Mr. Matt Smyth (second from right) during break. Mr. Smyth has begun both high school and junior school a cappella groups. Photo by Pat Killian

www.singmba.blogspot.com or just drop by during practice. The members are currently practicing a rendition of Down by Jay Sean, as well as Billy Joel’s, And So It Goes.

Voicemale’s next concert is scheduled for mid-February, so expect to hear from them soon!
Not all water fountains are created equal

By Daniel Mace
Staff Imbiber

One of the most overlooked philoso-
phers today is undoubtedly the French
philosopher, Henri Bergson (1859-1941).
During his lifetime, he achieved an almost
civilized status, and, at the height of his
career, his lectures attracted a motley au-
tority. Contrary to popular belief, not all water fountains are created
equal. While one can almost always receive hydration from any old fountain, only the
select few can truly refresh. With so many fountains on our campus from which to choose, an uneducated student can feel lost amidst the options. However, with a large majority of my own study habits spent researching, I shall apply a filter to the fluidity of your thoughts about the best water fountains to choose.

The water fountain itself carries a long and eventful history. The early Greeks and Romans developed fountains for bathing and drinking, using water transported to their cities in elaborate aqueducts. The simple styles quickly developed into elaborately adorned fountains, intended primarily for decoration. For the pragmatic student, however, the main quality desired is refreshment.

In determining refreshment capability, the most important aspect of a fountain is its technology. In terms of water fountain engineering, the most important development to come about is refrigeration.

Obviously, one could always drink from any water fountain, but then why not also from the toilet bowl? If it is my firmly held belief that after thousands of years of fountain engineering, we should be allowed the luxury of chilled water. Here arises the key difference in MBA’s fountains. Never, I repeat never waste your time on an outdoor fountain. Even if you manage to find a working outdoor fountain, the experience is nothing more than drinking tap water whilst staring into a bird laveritory.

Even once inside, the industrious student must often press on. Many factors still affect refreshment. One must always be vigilant against a splashy fountain. A lazy student can often find himself without refreshment and a soaked, wet face after setting for a fountain with a pressure similar to that of a fire hose. For instance, when in the upstairs of the Davis building, the sage hydrator always chooses the fountain on the right, avoiding the embarrassment facing anyone who dares use the one on the left.

In addition, the design of button is key as well. Always opt for the gentle button to push over the small circle to press. Not only does this allow the weary to rest and only press with their legs, it also avoids the pain of juvenile arthritis after jamming one’s thumb into the button design of old.

In summary, a few suggestions for the philosophy student desiring to slake their thirst.

Philosophy Club delves into Bergsonism

By Thomas Moore
Freelance Philosopher

One of the most overlooked philoso-
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metaphysician, Henri Bergson (1859-1941).
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civilized status, and, at the height of his
career, his lectures attracted a motley audi-
cence, including both society ladies and
famous poets. Early in his academic career, Bergson displayed signs of brilliance, mostly in his winning a prestigious first

prize in mathematics in 1877. Soon after this success, Bergson opted to direct his efforts towards metaphysics, a decision which led his math teacher famously to lament, “You could have been a mathematician; you will be a mere philosopher.”

After graduating from the École Normale in 1881, Bergson continued his research and first attained international prestige with the publication in 1903 of a long article entitled “An Introduction to Metaphysics.” This article, on which I will focus primarily, quickly became essential reading for understanding Bergson’s life work and the influence of “Bergsonism.”

Not only does his article represent an impor-
tant milestone in the history of philosophy, but it also influenced greatly the theories of future poets, led by Ezra Pound and T.S. Eliot, both of whom attended lectures by Bergson. For this reason, philosophers as well as literary critics should pay special attention to Bergson’s work.

Writing out of step with popular thought, Bergson sought not to instruct the student in classical metaphysics, but to introduce a complete reversal of the way in which most people had thought about metaphysics. Reacting against Neo-Kantian

skepticism, Bergson sought to restore the possibility of absolute knowledge. To ac-

complish this goal, he noted, a reevaluation of human thought was in order. Much of Bergson’s philosophy is not easy to cat-
egorize, because, for him, philosophy did not consist in the division of schools and

in the taking of sides. He strived to reach a
comprehensibility, therefore, a mere translation. Instead, we should avoid passing from concepts to things, but from things to concepts.
The object that we can most im-
mediately inhabit is the self. The inner life exhibits a variety of qualities that cannot be represented by symbols. Bergson defines the

self in terms of two apparently contradictory

notions: duration and multiplicity. The dura-
tion of time and the multiplicity of experi-
ence overlap to form the complete, absolute self. Bergson uses a ball of yarn to describe this process. As the yarn unravels, the past, stretching out behind us, grows larger, while the future, tightly coiled, becomes smaller.

This is the duration of time. The image is incomplete, however, because it fails to rep-
resent any multiplicity of experience. Any two points on the piece of yarn are identical. Bergson posits that no moment is identical to another. By the new experiences and in the

past.

Bergson uses the color spectrum to
describe multiplicity of experience. Like

experience, the spectrum includes various nuances, shades of color, juxtaposed next to the other. It is important to see the entire spectrum, for, Bergson suggests, if we could see only orange, we would “sense ourselves caught” between red and yellow. We can, however, perceive the variety of shades present in orange through an effort of

intuition. Bergson claims that this intuitive experience is essential in the integrating of an infinity of durations. Only by making such an effort, does Bergson believe we can achieve an accurate, absolute experience of an object, and avoid the limitations of points of view.

Bergson’s life work presents an interesting philosophy that can hardly be detailed in the confines of this article. In the coming weeks, I intend to present the works and ideas of Henri Bergson to MBA’s Philosophy Club. If this article has whetted your appetite, please attend that meeting for further enlightening discussion.

Matt Moynihan (‘10) quenches his thirst on the first floor of Carter. The fountain’s sleek design, steady flow, and refreshing chill make it an ideal destination for the thirsty student. Photo by Pat Killian
Academy Awards promise suspense, entertainment

By Trey Howard
Staff Writer

The 67th annual Golden Globe Awards show aired on Sunday, January 17th. Ricky Gervais was outstanding as the host, offering hilarious banter throughout the show and unafraid to go for the big-name celebrities. His quip when introducing Mel Gibson was especially memorable.

Avatar took top prize in the dramatic category, and The Hangover won Best Picture-Comedy. Of the male leads, the winners were Jeff Bridges in Drama for Crazy Heart and Will Forte in Comedy for Sherlock Holmes. For the female lead categories, Sandra Bullock won in Drama for The Blindside, and Meryl Streep won in Comedy for Julie and Julia. In supporting categories, Monique won for Precious and Christoph Waltz for Inglourious Basters.

James Cameron won Best Director and commented his ex-wife, Kathryn Bigelow, who was his biggest competition for the prize with her acclaimed The Hurt Locker. He also took time to speak na’vi, a language he created for Avatar.

Golden Globes are always fun, but Trey Howard ('10) believes an upset might be in store for this year’s Best Picture. Photo by Pat Killian

The Food Review Team did not go on some awesome adventure. Well, the answer to all of these questions is simple: yes.

Brown’s Diner

On the surface, Brown’s Diner seems a bit rough around the edges. Of course, if this deteres you from eating here, you are a pusillanimous chordate. So, if you are looking for some fancy dining experience, then this is not your place. Located at 2102 Blair Blvd, it is on a corner across the street from the Harris Teeter on 21st Avenue – this converted-trailer-like eatery is basically in the parking lot of Friedman’s Army Navy Surplus store.

R-Dubs and T-Barr entered said diner one evening and discovered that Brown’s Diner is not an evening food place. It is perfect for lunch, but don’t go at night, especially when it is full. There was only one waitress serving the place, which was full. So, it took forever. You can get a delicious hamburger for around 2 to 3 dollars. Unfortunately, while your wallet stays full, your stomach remains quite empty. To be honest, one hamburger at Five Guys is equal to two at Brown’s in price and size.

The second huge problem is that they only serve Pepsi products. To the Food Review Team such a beverage selection is about as outrageous as Ronald Reagan supporting France in the upcoming Olympic Games. If you can deal with Pepsi, however, you’ll be fine.

So, the final verdict? Brown’s is the ultimate diner experience minus the pie. The lack of Coke was as depressing as Nicholas Cage’s acting in Ghost Rider, but not nearly as hilarious, and Brown’s Diner is best experienced at lunchtime. The Food Review Team has granted Brown’s 7.001 out of 10. Kevin Carr’s world-famous Lineman Rating of Brown’s came to 8 out of 10 pies, despite the fact that there were none. When questioned about his take on the restaurant, Samuel L. Jackson said, “I [really]...love...Brown’s...diner.” Pretty elucidatory, eh?

Alright, if you have read our articles from last semester, you are now expecting us to go on some awesome adventure. Well, the Food Review Team never disappoints.

Bellevue Mall
9.65/10! We highly recommend.

The Nashville Zoo at Grassmere

The Food Review Team did not go into the Zoo. It costs something like 13 or 14 dollars per person, which seemed silly.

So, instead, we went to Captain D’s. Captain D’s is pretty good. In an earlier article, we said that Blackstone Brewery’s Fish was several steps above Captain D’s, but if you are money-tight, Captain D’s is a great, cheap, and surprisingly filling meal of fish. The Fish platter has a lot of food on it and costs around 5 dollars – a great bargain and less expensive than going to the Zoo.

So ends the latest review from your beloved Food Reviewers, dear reader. They are a rag-tag group of champions, this bunch, and they are sure to review even more places - places, dear reader, which will feel either the thrill of a victorious rating in this our most esteemed gazette, or the utter andundeniably embarrass- ing bereavement of a bad review, like the condescending striking of Zeus’ gavel in a most incredibly elaborate and celestial court of law on Mount Olympus itself. So, Dear Reader, do visit Brown’s Diner and Captain D’s, and perhaps you will hear the music of victory, a musicheavy with cellos at a rapid staccato.

In all seriousness, these places are delicious lunch stops, and they won’t hurt your wallet either.

We’d write a real review if we had more money

By Richard Wall and Thompson Barr
Food Review Team, Co-Founders

Have you ever eaten a cuttlefish? Well, neither has the Montgomery Bell Academy Food Review Team, but we did eat hamburgers at Brown’s Diner. Right now you are probably asking yourselves, “Well, guys, how was it? How was the atmosphere? Do you seriously call yourselves the ‘Food Review Team?’” Well, the answer to all of these questions is simple: yes.

Brown’s Diner

On the surface, Brown’s Diner seems a bit rough around the edges. Of course, if this deteres you from eating here, you are a pusillanimous chordate. So, if you are looking for some fancy dining experience, then this is not your place. Located at 2102 Blair Blvd, it is on a corner across the street from the Harris Teeter on 21st Avenue – this converted-trailer-like eatery is basically in the parking lot of Friedman’s Army Navy Surplus store.

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There are only two main problems with Brown’s: first, they have no pie. They call themselves a diner, and they lack pie? That is akin to calling a microwave an LCD TV, or saying that Curt Schilling is a baseball player. So, if you are looking for some fancy dining experience, then this is not your place.

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A. Joel Gluck DDS, MS

Board Certified Orthodontist

Father of Daniel ('03) and Jonathan ('04) Gluck

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Basketball team off to an impressive start

By Kyle Brantley

Sports Editor

MBA is on an unprecedented roll in basketball as of late, bouncing to an impressive 14-2 record, (5-0) currently. I’ve been going to this prestigious institution for six years now, and I’ve never seen so much talent on the basketball court. Of course, the Class of 2010 is leading the way once again.

This senior class is led by leading scorer Holden Mobley, assist addict Tyler Paslick, boy wizard Michael Seitz, and the brutal beast Brad Bars. However, what separates this team from past squads is the depth of the sensational sophomore class. David Howard, Austin Blackwell, and Aaron Simonis are fixtures in Coach Anglin’s rotation, while the freakishly tall Eliot Watts gets more playing time as he learns how to use his height to advantage.

When one thinks about the powerhouse sports of MBA, the first names that usually pop into one’s head are football, riflery, and ultimate frisbee. The bball squad is working harder than ever to nudge their way into that exclusive group and receive national attention. A large step toward that goal was taken when they trounced North Myrtle Beach, the Potomac School, and Cleveland (TN) on route to winning the Rock Holiday Classic in Orlando, FL. Historically, MBA has not performed well outside the state borders, so that championship victory is a big step in the right direction.

The Big Red are currently ranked 26th in the state by maxpreps.com, a ranking they believe can be improved. The only Division II foes that are ranked ahead of them are Ensworth (24th) and Christian Brothers (13th). Michael Seitz informed me that even though MBA’s record is incredible, the team hasn’t even come close to reaching its full potential.

The whole MBA community will surely be looking forward to seeing this team soar to new heights and make the deepest postseason run this school has seen since the state championship victory in 2001.

CDR Carr lets bowling success speak for itself

By George Swenson

Staff Writer

Commander Carr began coaching the MBA bowling team in 1999 and is the only coach in the team’s storied history. Commander Carr said “We quietly go about our business of winning games, becoming region champions, and qualifying for the state tournament every year without boasting about our domination. We do our talking on the lanes, and teams fear the Big Red bowling team.”

He and the team look to win the upcoming state tournament at the end of January and know that they have a great shot to do so. Commander Carr is honored to coach the finest young men from MBA and will be sad when the time comes to hang up his bowling shoes.

(Right) Commander Carr holds one of the bowling team’s many Regional championship plaques. The chemistry teacher is the only coach in the team’s storied history. Photo by Pat Killian

Senior leadership pulls wrestling through injuries

By Alex Apple

Sports Editor

Montgomery Bell Academy wrestlers have had a solid season to date. At the beginning of the season, coaches knew they had a good mix of senior wrestlers to lead the team and underclassmen to contribute as well.

The season started out with a tough loss to Ravenwood, with returning state runner-up Daniel Todd absent from the team. The squad then finished with a strong 4th-place showing at the Black Horse invitational in Memphis, TN, where John Mark Bellet and Mark Simpson both took second-place medals.

The wrestlers then went 6-3 in their next nine matches and finished 4th over Winter Break in the Father Ryan duals. Seniors Daniel Todd and John Donlon both wrestled well, along with Mark Simpson and John Mark Bellet.

The team has shown its depth, as several wrestlers have missed matches for injury or sickness. Recently, senior Tommy Harless broke his hand after a match, but senior Jonathan Golab has stepped in his place, and Kevin Murphy has had success in the mid-upper weight classes as well. The team’s total record is 9-4, but the most important wrestling remains in front of them, with up-coming matches versus several wrestlers across the board to step up as they head to the state tournament.

Daniel Todd (‘10), last year’s state runner-up, takes down yet another opponent. John Mark Bellet, Cayce Ortale, Ian Sharbel, and Mark Simpson have also contributed greatly to the team’s success. Photo courtesy of Mr. Jamie Tillman

Father Ryan, a match in Atlanta, and then the state duals.

The team’s most consistently successful wrestlers have been Daniel Todd, Ian Sharbel, John Mark Bellet, Mark Simpson, and Cayce Ortale. The team will need many

Photo courtesy of Mr. Jamie Tillman

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Most memorable games of decade recounted  

continued from page 1

2008. However, in the second game of the season, this team showed everyone it was for real. MBA traveled to Cincinnati, OH, for the Kirk Herbstreit Challenge, and physically dominated traditional power Moeller High School in the Bengal’s Paul Brown Stadium.

7. MBA 42, BA 41 (2009)
Following an emotional win at Ensworth a week earlier, MBA went to BA trying to avenge another regular season loss. After a hard-fought game at Carlton Flat Field, the contest was tied up at 28 at the end of regulation. In OT, each team scored twice, but a missed PAT by the Eagles sent MBA to the State Championship. Big Red faithfuls rushed the opponent’s field for a second straight week.

6. MBA 8, BA 7 (2000)
A nationally-ranked MBA team dominated each of its opponents leading up to the Clinic Bowl, and was therefore expected to handle Brentwood Academy in the state championship. The Big Red was down 7-0 at halftime, however, and was in for a fight in the 2nd half. After taking an 8-7 lead in the 4th quarter, BA missed last second field goal and MBA won its third consecutive gold ball.

5. MBA 27, Trinity 13 (2003)
Ranked third in the nation among high school teams, Trinity rolled into Nashville for the season opener. MBA held future Louisville star and NFL quarterback Brian Brohm to just 13 points in a close game. This nail-biter also started the home-and-home series between the two schools.

The 2003 team arguably had more talent than any other MBA team of the decade. They beat the third-ranked team in the nation and blew out Mississippi powerhouse Southaven. However, an overtime loss at BA got the team fired up, and it was redemption time in the Clinic Bowl a few weeks later. MBA left no doubt as to who was the better team, winning by 24 points. The Big Red finished #15 in the Final USA Today Super 25 Rankings.

After a dismal 7-0 start to the 2002 season, including a 31-6 loss to BA, people were disappointed in first-year coach Jeff Rutledge and his team. Late in the season, the seniors turned up the heat, snuck into the playoffs, and scratched their way to the state title game. The Big Red squad knocked off the Eagles, 27-11, in MBA’s most unlikely state championship ever.

2. MBA 27, Ensworth 24 (2009)
You know the story. Ensworth is at home. Ensworth won the first meeting 50-21. Ensworth has D-1 prospects all over the field. Ensworth can’t wait to play MUS in the State Championship game—not so fast, my friends. MBA pulled one of, if not the biggest upset in school history against its new rival. An eight-minute drive in the fourth quarter led to Andrew Fletcher’s game winning kick and an unforgettable win for the Big Red.

1. MBA 12, BA 0 (2007)
MBA went 4-6 and missed the playoff-offs in 2006, and many people had low expectations for 2007. But Coach McGugin and his team were motivated to prove people wrong, and things could not have gone better. With a high-powered offense and a lockdown defense that produced six shutouts, this was one of the best teams in MBA’s history. The perfect season culminated with a commanding 12-0 victory over BA in the State Championship, and MBA earned its most wins ever for a single season.
Stan vs. Wild: Coming to a garage near you

By Jamie Joyce
Local Music Columnist

For those of you who thought the local “private-school music scene” died after class of 2009’s In Case of Fire graduated, think again. With a respectable fan base that’s growing everyday, Stan vs. Wild has emerged with an explosive bang onto the local “play-in-my-garage” party circuit that has been dominating the weekends for the past few months.

Since forming, the band of talented musicians (MBA’s own Tom Markham, Carter Callaway, and John Wyse joined by Ensworth’s Ford Garrard) has been increasing its notoriety by playing shows and appearing regularly on the Facebook newsfeed of just about everyone. Recently, the band released their new single “Light Years,” its most mature work to date.

While at first Stan had been writing songs with a more Blink-182, poppy feel, like “Nick Crashed His Car” and “Jack Be Nimble,” “Light Years”’ dark and brooding chord progression suggests influences such as Interpol and Bloc Party. Although “Light Years” is currently only at the demo stage, it still provides the listener with a preview of just how much potential this band has.

Recently, I caught up with frontman Tom Markham, an MBA junior whose powerful-yet-subtle vocals are definitely one of “Light Years”’ strongest points.

Bell Ringer: So exactly how did Stan vs. Wild get started?

Tom Markham: Well, it originally started out when Carter and I always used to write weird little songs, like where I would play piano and he would play the electric guitar, and it was like the most terrible combination of music ever. Then Ford started taking bass lessons, and he got pretty good, and I was like, “Wait a minute, why don’t we try starting this band thing?” And so I knew John Wyse played the drums, and he was really good. So we just met one day in Ford’s basement and started to jam.

Bell Ringer: You’ve recently released “Light Years.” Tell us about it.

Tom Markham: Pretty much anyone who has been to MBA in recent years knows of a kid named Stan Rozar, who was the craziest, most confusing, yet hilarious kid I’ve ever met. So one night, it was before we were playing a show actually, we were in Ford’s basement. We were hyped on energy drinks and candy and stuff and watching the Discovery Channel. Then Bear Grylls (from Discovery channel’s “Man vs. Wild”) comes on, and we were thinking that night we needed a new band name. We were called The Sparks before, but that was a terrible name, and there was already another band called The Sparks. So, we see Bear Grylls on the TV, and Carter was like, “Whoa, what if we gave Stan Rozar six Red Bull’s and pushed him into the woods with a video camera?” And then Ford was like, “Stan vs. Wild.” It was kind of an epiphany.

Bell Ringer: What’s your process for songwriting?

Tom Markham: You’re recently released “Light Years.” Tell us about it.

Bell Ringer: Any shows coming up soon?

Tom Markham: Not as of yet. We’re still looking for a place to play. I don’t mean to drop hints or anything but… yeah (laughs).

Stan vs. Wild: a junior band on the rise, rocks Powell’s House of Disco.
FRIEND REQUESTS

Don’t be rude. This guy looks legit.